

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 03632 211411Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 EB-07 COME-00 L-03

/034 W

-----211423Z 123696 /45

P 211318Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8388

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBSR, SA

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN ROSENTHAL

REF: STATE 114482

1. DUE TO THE FACT THAT A WTDR COVERS A FIRM'S LOCAL BUSINESS REPUTATION ONLY, THERE IS NOT MUCH TO REPORT IN ANSWER TO CONGRESSMAN ROSENTHAL'S QUERY. THE KHASHOGGI WTDR WAS UPDATED SOMETIME AFTER THE "WASHINGTON POST" HAD WRITTEN AN ARTICLE TAKING THE USG TO TASK FOR SAYING ONLY THAT KHASHOGGI WAS AN EXCELLENT CONTACT. THIS WAS AFTER KHASHOGGI HAD BEEN IN THE NEWS FOR ALLEGED PAYOFFS. IN ORDER TO DRAW POTENTIAL CUSTOMER'S ATTENTION TO CONTENTIOUS AREA OF TRADE PRACTICES INVOLVING TRIAD (TO AVOID A REPETITION OF SUCH AN ARTICLE), THE EMBASSY BELIEVED THE ASSESSMENT OF THE FIRM SHOULD BE MORE QUALIFIED AND MORE SPECIFIC THAN IN THE PAST. NO INTERNAL MEMORANDA AVAILABLE: CHANGE WAS REQUESTED ORALLY AND NOTED ON DRAFT OF THE UPDATED WTDR, WHICH IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE. AS IN THE COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH LOCKHEED, WHICH SPECIFIED A COMMISSION RATE THAT BECAME EXORBITANT WHEN THE HIGH VALUE OF THE CON-

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TRACT WITH THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT WAS EFFECTED, WE FELT THAT U.S. FIRMS SHOULD BE CAREFUL IN TERMS OF ANY CONTRACT WITH KHASHOGGI AND HIS FIRM, TRIAD.

2. RE QUESTION (2) OF REFTL, ABOVE WAS THE ONLY CHANGE IN THE WTDR ON KHASHOGGI AND HIS COMPANIES THAT WAS MADE.

3. THE POST RELIES ON INSTRUCTIONS AND ADVICE FROM
WASHINGTON AGENCIES WHEN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES
ARISE IN THE U.S. AFFECTING A LOCAL FIRM'S WTDR. THE
PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL OFFICER'S JUDGEMENT ON HOW A LOCAL
FIRM MUST BE TREATED IN A WTDR IS BASED ON ALL AVAILABLE
INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRESS REPORTS AS WELL AS BANK
AND BUSINESS REPORTS. HE ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY
FOR ALL WTDRS. IN THIS INSTANCE, IT WAS FSO JOSEPH
EBLAN.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY FROM CONGRESSMAN ROSENTHAL
TAGS: BBSR, SA
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